mg a passage by Cashel because of the Lord President's forces, the only other way lay over the mountains of Slewphehm, which in summer is easy to pass, but now by reason of the great rams impassable for horse or baggage But there suddenly happened a great frost, the like whereof in that realm hath seldom been seen The enemy, perceiving so good an opportunity offered to pass the mountains, took advantage of the time and rising in the night passed over the same, and marching by night and day without rest they went no less than 32 Irish miles, which is the greatest march that hath ever been heard of at this time of the year O'Donnell is now joined with Tyrone before Kinsale.

^<)th December SIR FRANCIS COSENETH THE ARCHDUKE

New succours of men and munition and material are now entered into Ostend, and that danger for the time overpast by means of a stratagem wrought by the Lord General upon the Archduke Upon the 2Oth of this month, Sir Francis sent Captain Ogle and Captain Fairfax over to the enemy, with faith given for their safe return, who were received by the Archduke, a truce and general cessation of all hostility on both sides being promised during the time of their treaty for land matters, but no further, whereby the abandoned works remained neutral but not lawfully to be possessed by them The Archduke received them and demanded whether they had instruction to treat, and whether any fraud was intended They replied that they were ignorant of any and were come as hostages, so that his Highness might be pleased to send to his Lordship about the proposed business Accordingly

there were sent
Matthew Serano, Governor of Sluys, and one Don Augustiors,
who came into the town Hereupon Sir Francis, projecting
still the means to gain time, when he perceived the Spaniards
to have been attended over the water with about 60 horse,
caused an alarm to be taken and charged them with breach of
promise in the manner of their arming, and would neither speak
with them nor see them, but gave peremptory command that
they should be sent back to the place where they came over
By this time the sea being grown denied them passage There-
upon back again into the town they came, when Sir Francis